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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Formation of FDJ Squads to Obtain Potatoes	DATE DISTR.	20 November 1953
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BY CABLE

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
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(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. Teams consisting of 20 FDJ members from the HF Werk are to make a two-week tour starting 20 November through Mecklenburg and through the Frankfurt/Oder area to force the farmers to deliver their potatoes. The farmers are holding their potatoes to insure their own supply and in the hope of obtaining better prices when shortages arise. The FDJ squads allegedly are sent by the SED. The squads are to convince the farmers to turn over their potato stocks. If they are unsuccessful, they are authorized to turn to the Volkspolizei for help. They literally are to break into the potato stores. The center of action is to be Seelow. It is not known exactly how many teams are to participate or where.
2. According to the HF Werk Party Secretary, who briefed the squad leaders, the present East Berlin potato stocks will last only until 30 November 1953.

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